



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Drug trafficking charges issued against Milwaukee Police Officer**

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today the issuance of federal drug trafficking charges against a City of Milwaukee police detective.

Larry D. White of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was charged today by criminal complaint with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and distribution of cocaine. An affidavit of an FBI agent filed in support of the complaint alleges that White, a Milwaukee Police detective, conspired to distribute cocaine with his brother in law, Lawrence Matthews of Calumet City, Illinois. Matthews was charged in a federal criminal complaint yesterday.

If convicted of the charges, White and Matthews each face a minimum of five (5) years and up to forty (40) years in prison without parole. Each also faces a maximum fine of \$2,000,000.

The FBI affidavit recounts an investigation of White and Matthews from September of 2005 to the arrest of Matthews on February 6, 2006. According to the affidavit, in January of 2006 FBI agents interviewed a cooperating witness who described a series of cocaine transactions with Matthews and White from late 2004 through the summer of 2005. The affidavit further alleges that between January 18, 2006 and January 26, 2006, the cooperating witness, Matthews and White had a series of phone conversations and meetings to arrange the delivery of a kilogram of cocaine for \$22,000. These meetings and phone conversations were monitored and surveilled by FBI agents. The affidavit alleges that on January 26, 2006, White delivered a kilogram of cocaine to the cooperating witness in White's Milwaukee residence.

The affidavit further alleges that later on January 26, 2006, the cooperating witness ordered an additional 2 kilograms of cocaine from Matthews. The affidavit alleges that on February 6, 2006, Matthews was arrested by FBI agents in Milwaukee with what appeared to be 2 kilograms of cocaine and a handgun.

This case has been investigated by the FBI with complete cooperation and support of the Milwaukee Police Department. FBI Special Agent in Charge James E. Finch stated: "In keeping with her 'Zero Tolerance Policy' regarding corrupt police officers, Milwaukee Police Department Chief Nannette Hegerty brought this matter to the attention of the FBI. The FBI investigates fraud and corruption at

every level. The FBI will vigorously investigate allegations of criminal conduct by law enforcement officers. The illegal conduct of a few can damage the hard earned good reputation of us all.”

The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Mel Johnson for prosecution. The public is cautioned that a criminal complaint is a method for issuing federal charges and does not, in and of itself, constitute evidence of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent unless and until the government establishes guilt by proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

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For more information contact:

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